

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a video monitoring method, each of a series of frame outputs generated by a video camera is defined with a number of image regions. Each of the image regions contains a predetermined segment of a predetermined set of horizontal scan lines of the corresponding frame output. A reference brightness value is obtained for each of the image regions of a reference one of the frame outputs. A current brightness value is then obtained for each of the image regions of a current one of the frame outputs. Each of the current brightness values is compared with a respective one of the reference brightness values to detect movement of an object into one of the image regions of the current one of the frame outputs.